

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11) Publication number:

**0 565 459 A3**

(12)

**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**(21) Application number: **93420143.5**(51) Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>: **G03C 5/30, G03C 1/06**(22) Date of filing: **02.04.93**(30) Priority: **10.04.92 US 866604**(43) Date of publication of application:  
**13.10.93 Bulletin 93/41**(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**BE DE FR GB**(88) Date of deferred publication of the search report:  
**26.10.94 Bulletin 94/43**(71) Applicant: **EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY**  
**343 State Street**  
**Rochester New York 14650-2201 (US)**(72) Inventor: **Purol, Michael Dennis, c/o Eastman Kodak Company**  
**Patent Legal Staff,**  
**343 State Street**  
**Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)**  
Inventor: **Zielinski, Paul Anthony, c/o Eastman Kodak Company**  
**Patent Legal Staff,**  
**343 State Street**  
**Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)**  
Inventor: **Kerr, Donald Laurens, c/o Eastman Kodak Company**  
**Patent Legal Staff,**  
**343 State Street**  
**Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)**(74) Representative: **Parent, Yves et al**  
**Kodak-Pathé**  
**Département Brevets et Licences**  
**Centre de Recherches et de Technologie**  
**Zone Industrielle**  
**F-71102 Chalon-sur-Saône Cédex (FR)**(54) **Novel photographic developing solution and use thereof in the high contrast development of nucleated photographic elements.****EP 0 565 459 A3**

(57) An improved photographic developing solution is free of dihydroxybenzene developing agents such as hydroquinone, has a pH in the range of from 9.5 to 11.5 and comprises (1) an ascorbic acid developing agent, (2) an auxiliary super-additive developing agent and (3) a carbonate buffering agent in a concentration of at least 0.5 molar. The developing solution is broadly useful in black-and-white development but is most advantageously employed in a process for forming a high-contrast image utilizing a silver halide photographic element comprising a hydrazine compound which functions as a nucleating agent and an amino compound which functions as an incorporated booster. The developing solution is

ecologically advantageous, exhibits excellent stability with respect to seasoning effects, and provides high speed and good upper scale contrast combined with a low level of pepper fog and a moderate degree of chemical spread.



European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 93 42 0143

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
D,Y	US-A-4 988 604 (MACHONKIN ET AL.) * column 10, line 6 - line 14 * * column 11; example I6 * * column 16, line 24 - line 60 * ---	1-16	G03C5/30 G03C1/06
Y	US-A-4 022 621 (HAYASHI ET AL.) * column 1, line 9 - line 13 * * column 2, line 33 - line 65 * * column 3, line 27 - line 31 * ---	1-16	
Y	FR-A-2 241 810 (3M) * page 5, line 23 - page 6, line 9 * * page 7, line 1 - line 17 * * page 30, line 33 - page 31, line 5 * -----	1-16	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			G03C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 2 September 1994	Examiner Magrizos, S
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</div> <div>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div>			